

House Resolution No. 3389

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge milestone events in the histories of Show-Me State families whose members down through the years have spread across the United States; and

Whereas, from Thursday, June 26, through Sunday, June 29, 2008, the West-Miller Family Reunion will be held at various locations in the Kansas City metropolitan area; and

Whereas, the West-Miller families can trace their origins to a slave named William who was born in 1843 on the Simmons Plantation of Virginia and who later adopted the surname of "West" after he was freed by the Emancipation Proclamation and made his way westward to Tallahatchie County, Mississippi, and then to Palestine, Arkansas, in order to co-found West Union and Antioch Baptist churches and to ply his skills as a farmer and cobbler; and

Whereas, the West-Miller families also trace their roots to Mollie Miller, who was born into slavery in 1829 and was likewise freed from bondage by the Emancipation Proclamation; and

Whereas, after three generations, the West-Miller families united when William West's grandson, William Henry West, married Mollie Miller's granddaughter, Mamie Miller; and

Whereas, Juanita West, daughter of William and Mamie West, planned and hosted the first West-Miller Family Reunion, which took place at her home in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1979; and

Whereas, the West-Miller families have developed and maintained excellent reputations as industrious, virtuous people of faith who embrace their heritage as a Christian family made up of the seven generations of relatives known to them:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the history and accomplishments of the West-Miller families and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes as they hold a family reunion celebrating the legacy of seven generations; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the West-Miller Family Reunion.

Offered by _____
Representative Craig Bland
District No. 43

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session,
do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 3389, adopted June 11, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker